Prejudice & Conflict
Summer Session 1: May 31 – July 7
Tuesday & Thursday: 6pm – 9:40pm
Livingston Classroom Building 110

Instructors:
Elizabeth Salib – esalib@rci.rutgers.edu – Tillett Hall 435
Sean Stevens – stevenss@rci.rutgers.edu - Tillett Hall 423

Office Hours:
Elizabeth: By Appointment Only
Sean: Tuesday 3-4pm, or by appointment.

Course Number: 830:375:B6

Description
This course is designed to provide a basic overview of the psychological bases of prejudice and conflict. You will learn about present and historical conflicts and what psychological underpinnings may have fueled them. There will be an emphasis on evolutionary theories that help us understand the reasons why humans are driven to discriminate. Each week will cover a different major topic in the area of prejudice. We will wrap up the course with a discussion of prejudice and discrimination reduction.

Structure
This course will be structured around: readings assignments, lectures and discussions, and weekly movies. You will be expected to the read the assigned material before you attend class!

The success of this course depends on your participation and preparedness for class. Please take responsibility for your performance.

Reading Assignments: You will be assigned 2-3 articles to read before each class. Please have the readings completed prior to attending class. All materials will be posted in the Resources section of Sakai.

Lectures and Discussions: The lectures will blend discussion and material that gives a solid foundation of that topic area. You are strongly encouraged to participate and comment during class. Additionally, there may be in class activities that enhance your understanding of that day’s topic.

Weekly Movies: Each week the instructors will select a movie that demonstrates the week’s topics. You are encouraged think critically about the topics discussed in class and the movie.

Grading
Grades will be based on:
Attendance: 10%
Participation: 10%
Weekly Reflections: 40%
Final Paper: 40%

Attendance: You are expected to attend every class. Attendance will be taken at every class through a sign in sheet. You cannot sign in for other people who are not in class. If we find you doing this, you will receive a 0 for that day as well as one additional day. This means that if you had perfect attendance (12 out of 12) and you were caught signing in for someone else, your attendance grade will become 83% (10 out of 12)

Participation: You are expected to participate in every class. This includes (but is not limited to): volunteering to answer questions, asking questions, furthering the discussion through thoughts/commentary etc.
Reflection Papers: You will be asked to write a weekly reflection paper (2-3 pages). We will be watching an in class movie related to the topic of each week. You should write your reflection papers on anything that ties the weekly topic to: the movie, current events, historical events, personal anecdotes, etc. Papers are due at the beginning of class on Tuesdays. They will be graded on a 3 point scale (Max = 10): 0 = Not passed in, 1 = Turned in, 2 = Well written paper, 3 = Exceptional paper. **Late assignments will be penalized by one point off the original grade (Exception: excused absences). This means that if you would have received a 2 but you turned your paper in on Thursday, your grade will be a 1. A grade that would have been a 1 will become a 0.5. Reflection papers will not be accepted after the end of class on the Thursday of that week.

Final Paper: You will write a 10-15 page paper on a topic discussed in class. This should be an APA-style paper with a minimum of 10 references from peer-reviewed journals (ex. Journal of Personality and Social Psychology).

Students requiring special accommodations should contact us as soon as possible.

Academic Integrity

As students and teachers, we are the guardians of knowledge for future generations. An implicit condition for your participation in this course is your acceptance of the principles defining academic integrity. Please familiarize yourselves with Rutgers’ Policy on Academic Integrity. Rutgers’ Official Policy on Academic Integrity: [http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html](http://teachx.rutgers.edu/integrity/policy.html)

You may not collaborate on written assignments. All work that you turn in must be your own work. Cheating and plagiarism will not be tolerated.

If we suspect a student of cheating, we will report him/her or her to the Disciplinary Panel. We take cheating very seriously and suggest you do the same.
This schedule is tentative. Any changes will to the schedule will be uploaded on Sakai and emailed to the class.

**Week 1: Intergroup Conflicts and Genocide (Sean)**
May 31: Introduction

June 2:
*Readings:*
  - Stanton, G.H., (2002). What is genocide?

**Week 2: Psychological Bases of Prejudice (Elizabeth)**
June 7:
*Readings:*

June 9:
*Readings:*

**Week 4: Politics and Other –Isms (Sean)**
June 14: Politics and Political Prejudice
*Readings:*

June 16: Ageism, Sizeism
*Readings:*
Week 3: Racism (Sean & Elizabeth)
June 21:
  Readings:
  Bertand, M., & Mullainathan, S. (2004). Are Emily and Greg more employable than Lakisha and
  991-1013.


June 23:
  Readings:
  TBD

Week 5: Sexism and Anti-Homosexuality (Elizabeth)
June 28:
  Readings:
  gender: How power and intimacy shape gender relations*. New York: Guilford

  TBD

June 30:
  Readings:
  power and intimacy shape gender relations*. New York: Guilford

  TBD

Week 6: Discrimination and Prejudice Reduction (Elizabeth & Sean)
July 5: Discrimination and Prejudice Reduction
  Readings:

  Stewart, T. L., Latu, I. M., Branscombe, N. R., & Denney, H. T. (2010). Yes we can!: Prejudice
  reduction through seeing (inequality) an believing (in social change). *Psychological Science*, 21(11),
  1557-1562.

July 7: NO CLASS. PAPERS DUE BY EMAIL AT MIDNIGHT.

Suggested Readings:

  we disagree about. *Psychological Science*, 17, 38-45.

Tetlock, P.E., Elson, K.S., Green, M.C., & Lerner, J. (2000). The psychology of the unthinkable: Taboo trade-offs,
  forbidden base rates, and heretical counterfactuals. *Journal of Personality and Social Psychology*, 78, 853
  -870.